

As a past Chairman, and now Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security, I have had the pleasure of working with Steve on many crucial security issues over the years. His experience, knowledge, and professionalism have made him a significant contributor to improving homeland security programs, domestically and abroad.

In his more than 30 years with the GAO, Steve has led the production of innumerable reports, and his work for our Committee has covered issues ranging from protecting our critical infrastructure to promoting resiliency in federal programs and in our civil society at large.

His astonishing thoroughness and dedication while working at GAO, one of our most essential independent agencies, has created a legacy that is respected in Congress, and certainly among his peers.

In recent years Steve has contributed to a number of GAO audits of particular interest and help to me as Chairman of the Committee, and now as Ranking Member, and has testified numerous times before our Committee and many others in both the House and Senate. He is known nationally and internationally as an expert regarding the security of the maritime global supply chain and critical infrastructure protection, and has spoken on these issues at innumerable conferences. His articles appear regularly in academic and industry journals.

Of particular importance, Steve has contributed to a number of recommendations that have led to significant changes in The Customs and Border Protection's programs that have improved the security of the maritime supply chain, among other issues, not only in the United States but around the world.

Personally, I will miss Steve's commitment, know-how, and enthusiasm, and I am sure I speak for the other Members of the Committee on Homeland Security, when I say that I am deeply in his debt. I sincerely thank him and his devoted family, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Stephen L. Caldwell for his remarkable career. He has served well the Government Accountability Office, the Committee on Homeland Security, and countless others in the Federal Government, and especially the citizens of our nation who have benefited from his expertise and dedicated effort. Steve, we will surely miss your hard work, good humor, and sage advice.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I introduce a bill that would give the mayor of the District of Columbia authority over deploying the D.C. National Guard, after consultation with the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard, with the President retaining authority on federal matters. In local emergencies, including natural disasters and civil disturbances unrelated to national or homeland security, the mayor of the District should have the same authority that governors exercise over the Na-

tional Guard in their states. Each governor, as head of state, has the authority to mobilize the National Guard to protect his or her state, just as local militia did historically.

The National Guards in the 50 states operate under dual federal and local jurisdiction. Yet only the President and the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard currently have the authority to deploy the D.C. National Guard for local and national purposes, respectively. Today, by far the most likely need for the D.C. National Guard here would be for natural disasters, such as hurricanes and floods, and to restore order in the wake of civil disturbances. The mayor, who knows the city better than any federal official and who works closely with federal security officials, should be able to call on the D.C. National Guard for local natural disasters and civil disturbances, after consultation with the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard. The President should be focused on national matters, including homeland security, not local D.C. matters. Homeland security authority, with respect to the D.C. National Guard, would remain the sole province of the President, along with the power to nationalize the D.C. National Guard for federal matters at will. It does no harm to give the mayor this authority for civil disturbances and natural disasters. However, it could do significant harm to leave the mayor powerless to act quickly. If it makes sense that governors would have control over the mobilization and deployment of their National Guard, it makes equal sense for the mayor of the District, with a population the size of a small state, to have the same authority.

The mayor of the District, as head of state, should have the authority to deploy the D.C. National Guard in instances that do not rise to the level of homeland defense activities. My bill permits the mayor to only deploy the D.C. National Guard after consultation with the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard. The bill is another important step toward completing the transfer of full self-government powers to the District. Congress began with the passage of the Home Rule Act of 1973, when it delegated most of its authority over District matters to an elected mayor and Council. The bill follows that model.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

A TRIBUTE TO ETHAN ANDERSON IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ethan Anderson of Southeast Polk High School for winning the Class 3A 220 pound bracket at the Iowa High School State Wrestling tournament on February 21, 2015.

Iowa has a long and proud history of strong wrestling programs in our state, producing college and Olympic champions for years. Winning a state championship is the culmination of years of hard work and commitment, not only on the part of Mr. Anderson, but also his family, teammates, and coaches.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this student-athlete demonstrates the rewards of hard

work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent Ethan and his family in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating Ethan on competing in this rigorous competition and wishing continued success in his education and wrestling career.

RECOGNIZING MR. SAMUEL JOSEPH SIMON SR.

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Samuel Joseph Simon Sr. for his 60 years of volunteer service to the Pennndel Fire Company. Sam is a remarkable individual of the highest moral character, and it is my pleasure to honor him today.

Sam's duty with the Pennndel Fire Company dates all the way back to 1955—after he served honorably in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Over the years, no one has been more dedicated to the fire company than Sam. He has held almost every office imaginable: Pennndel Fire Chief, Pennndel Borough Fire Marshal, Assistant Chief, Captain, Lieutenant, Trustee, and Chairman of the Hall Committee. And, in each of these roles, Sam played an integral part in helping the fire company perform, save lives and grow as a unit.

Sam's true nature is volunteerism, a quality he has instilled in the future generations of his family. Over the years, Sam would routinely close his local automotive repair shop in order to respond to fire calls or drive an ambulance for the local emergency squad. Taking care of the people in his community was always his top priority.

In addition to his work at the fire company, Sam has given back to the people of Bucks County as a cofounder of the Bucks County Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association, where he helped obtain the funds and oversaw the construction of the Korean Veterans Memorial in Doylestown, Pennsylvania—a site for all to see. Sam's passion for community service and devotion to helping people is unmatched. It is people like Sam that keep our neighborhoods thriving day after day. It is an honor to serve you in Congress, Sam. Thanks for all you've done for us.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICORPS VISTA

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 50th Anniversary of AmeriCorps VISTA. AmeriCorps VISTA has been on the front lines in the fight against poverty in America for 50 years. Every year, more than 8,000 Americans—serving at 1,100 projects nationwide—dedicate their skills, talents and passion in efforts to overcome poverty.

Since 1965, VISTA members have served in some of our nation's most impoverished urban and rural areas. As a result of their dedication,